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Busy Party Line

AS GOP ELEPHANTS trumpeted last week that Perle Mesta had picked the Nixon ticket, a group of Perle's friends who had picked tickets for the opening night on Tuesday at the National Theater of Allen Drury's "Advice and Consent," turned up at her Spring Valley home for a buffet supper following the show.

In spite of Perle's switch to the Republican camp, a lot of guests showed up wearing Kennedy sentiments on their black tie sleeves. Most sought-after guest, however, was not a political figure. It was Allen Drury, himself, proving that the pen sometimes is stronger than the peroration.

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Frederick Lee (left) chats with CIA Chief and Mrs. Allen Dulles